

WIIG OUT ON 'SATURDAY NIGHT'?

{page 06}

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NEW YORK
Thursday, April 5, 2012



EZRA SHAW/GETTY IMAGES

Nobody's coming down to meet the Mets

- It's Opening Day, but Amazin's are struggling to fill seats at Citi
- Team, fans alike reeling from payroll cuts and Reyes loss
- Meanwhile, Yankees tickets have been sold out for weeks {page 02}



News

Mastermind of 9/11 to be tried at Gitmo

- US attorney general wanted to hold trial here in New York
- Bowed to public outcry over safety concerns {page 04}

Pour some sugar daddy on me

Do you have what it takes for this type of May-December romance?
{page 09}



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In the news Pit bull shot protecting owner in theft

A Staten Island pit bull took a bullet for his owner during a robbery attempt, but luckily survived the shot. A 12-year-old pit bull named Kilo was shot during a robbery as he attacked the thief, who posed as a FedEx delivery man, according to the New York Post. His owner, Justin Becker, 32, rushed him to the hospital, where doctors said he was "very lucky" the bullet missed his skull. **METRO/AB**

In the news



Coney Is. assault

Police released this sketch yesterday of a man accused of a sex assault in Brooklyn on March 27. A woman was walking on 30th Street at Neptune Avenue at about 9:30 p.m. when she was attacked and sexually assaulted by the suspect. Cops said the suspect is black, about 25 to 32, 5 feet 9 inches to 6 feet tall, with a medium build. **METRO/AB**

NYC police probe death of top French academic

MIDTOWN. A prominent French academic, Richard Descoings, was found dead and naked in a New York hotel room on Tuesday afternoon and New York police opened an investigation into the circumstances of his death.

New York City police said that the body of Descoings, 53,

director of the prestigious Institute of Political Studies or "Sciences Po" in Paris and a member of France's Council of State, a government advisory body, was found in his room at the Michelangelo Hotel on 51st Street in Midtown Manhattan.

A police source initially cat-

egorized the circumstances of the incident as "suspicious," in part because Descoings' room was a jumble when investigators arrived.

But later on Tuesday, Paul Browne, chief spokesman for the New York Police Department, said investigators now believe the disorder in the

"Richard Descoings contributed more than anyone of his generation to ... the prestige of France's higher education."

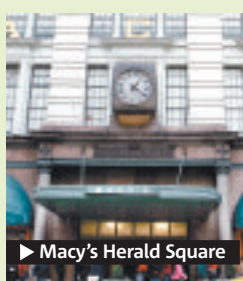
FRENCH PRESIDENT NICOLAS SARKOZY

room was caused by rescue workers while they tried to resuscitate the Frenchman.

Police believe there is no evidence of a struggle, Browne told Reuters.

They are also investigating the possibility that the death was a suicide, a source added.

REUTERS



Macy's fire clears store in evacuation

Macy's Department store in Herald Square was evacuated yesterday after a fire sent firefighters rushing to the iconic shopping mecca.

The FDNY reported that the fire was in the subcellar of the store and was quickly extinguished by dozens of firefighters sent to the scene. Hundreds of shoppers filled the streets after employees told them to leave the store, but were allowed back in by the afternoon. The FDNY reported no injuries yesterday. **METRO/AB**

Man kills, dismembers roommate

SHEEPSHEAD BAY. A Brooklyn man said he cut up his roommate because he was too loud, according to officials.

Cops said that Sergey Mamontov dismembered his roommate and mixed up his remains with bleach in the fridge, which police found Tuesday. Cops said that he confessed to the crime and said he killed his 55-year-old roommate after they had been regularly fighting, according to the New York Daily News.

METRO/AB

Mets struggle to seat a full house in Flushing

► Fan enthusiasm low for today's season opener ► Following several down years and off-field troubles, once-prized tickets remain available

Are you a New York Mets fan? Odds are you won't be at today's Opening Day game.

Unlike the Yankees or the Phillies, the Mets are struggling to sell out their Opening Day. Dave Howard, the team's executive vice president for business operations, said Tuesday there were still "several thousand" tickets available for today's home opener, illustrating just how sour the mood of the fans has become.

The Mets are, of course, eager to fill their 41,800-seat ballpark for the first home game of baseball season, but in order to get a packed house, they will need brisk sales today and anywhere from 2,000 to 4,000 walk-up fans to buy tickets, Howard said, according to the New York Post.

The team ownership's involvement in the Bernie Madoff scandal and hemorrhaging funds have caused them to part ways with some of their best players to cut payroll. The Mets' \$52 million reduction in



► As of last night, there were still seats available at Citi Field.

payroll from last year represents the largest reduction in baseball history.

And attendance at home games dropped 7 percent last

year, to its lowest levels since 2004.

"It's not lack of enthusiasm, it's just realism," said lifelong Mets fan and Bronx

resident Ramsby Roland, 32, yesterday, of his low expectations for the team this year. "I think they're going to battle it out with the Nationals for last place. They're not better than the Phillies, they're not better than the Braves; they lost Jose Reyes. I don't even know who their closer is."

It's a far cry from years past. The Mets have sold out every home opening game since 1997, and it's often one of the hottest tickets of the season.

Compare the Mets' scramble to fill seats this weekend to New York's other baseball team. The Yankees season opener on April 6 in Tampa Bay against the Rays is sold out, as is their opening game at home, on April 13. And Mets archrival, the Phillies' April 9 opener is sold out, setting an MLB record with 204 straight sellouts.



CARLY BALDWIN
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Cheap seats



► Some fans may just be waiting for cheaper tickets. Opening Day Mets tickets average \$133, the 10th highest across the MLB, according to SeatGeek.com, which aggregates ticket listings from 60

different sites, such as StubHub and eBay.

► That's a steep increase from last year's Opening Day game against the Marlins, which cost fans on average \$93, while their 2010 opener against the Washington Nationals cost \$101 on average. ► But tickets for the weekend will drop back down again. The Saturday and Sunday games in the Mets-Braves series are averaging \$67 per ticket. Tickets to the next series at Citi Field against the Washington Nationals average just \$39.

Mets make odd offer

In a particularly desperate move, the Mets sent out an e-mail last week to some fans who had already purchased tickets, according to Capital New York. "You can still purchase tickets to watch the first pitch ... And to thank you for your support, you can choose to come back on Saturday or Sunday for free."

Summer looks bleak

Opening Day should be packed, and it's usually later in the season when fans drop off. For example, prices for a Mets home game against the Cincinnati Reds later this year average at just \$41.

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9/11 trial will not be held in NY

The alleged Sept. 11 mastermind will not be tried in New York City after all.

The United States military announced yesterday that Khalid Sheikh Mohammed will be tried by a military tribunal at Guantanamo Bay.

Officials had considered trying him in a New York civilian court after U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder first sug-

gested the idea in 2009.

Some New Yorkers supported trying Mohammed in the city, saying it would be symbolic since that's where the 9/11 terror attacks occurred.

But others, including Governor Andrew Cuomo, expressed concern, saying that the media frenzy over the trials would make New York City an even greater terrorist

target and bring logistical nightmares like traffic congestion.

Mohammed, accused of helping to train the hijackers, will be tried with four other accused terrorism plotters who all face the death penalty. The defendants are scheduled to be arraigned in May, according to the Associated Press. ● METRO/AB

After fatal crane collapse, safety concerns raised

JEREMY SPARG/METRO



► The MTA has suspended work at the crane collapse site.

City Council Speaker Christine Quinn said yesterday that the construction site where a crane killed a worker was not safe enough.

The construction worker was killed Tuesday night after a crane collapsed at 34th Street and 11th Avenue, where the MTA is working on the 7 train extension project. Four other people were also injured.

At a press conference held at the site yesterday, Quinn cautioned that the reasons behind the crane collapse are so far unknown, and she is awaiting results from a Department of Buildings investigation.

But she said that city officials found troubling safety problems at the site after the incident.

One problem, she said, was a walkway over the construction pit of the site was not secured properly, potentially endangering workers walking above the construction.

This would have been a vio-

lation under city construction standards, she said, but because the MTA is a state agency, it is instead beholden to state safety regulations.

"That is quite simply wrong," Quinn said.

The MTA should agree to give the city oversight at their projects, she said, which also includes the Second Avenue subway line.

"This must happen immediately because, literally, lives are at stake," she said.

The MTA responded to Quinn's assertions last night, saying they were examining her suggestion. They added that the city already inspects all cranes, including the one in Tuesday's incident, which had a report of "no deficiencies."

Another Department of Buildings inspection for the crane had been scheduled for today, the MTA added.



ALISON BOWEN
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Problems at the site

If the MTA had been held to city construction safety standards, Quinn said, they would have been required to submit an engineer's report before using the crane, detailing what it would be used for; where on the site the crane would operate

and how it would be secured and inspected.

Also, unlike city projects, where officials can drop by for an inspection any time, officials must be invited on site at MTA projects, Quinn said.

The Port Authority, in contrast, is a state agency but submits to city regulations, Quinn added.

● METRO/AB



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THE WORD



Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip [@dorothyatmetro](#) dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Key 'SNL' players moving on?

Two sources have told Us Weekly that several of the best, more recognizable "Saturday Night Live" players are ready to move on. "**Kristen Wiig**, **Andy Samberg** and **Jason Sudeikis** are all leaving after the end of the season," says one insider. "It will be a huge blow to the show. Without Andy's video shorts and Kristen saving every skit, they'll need help!"

A rep for both Wiig, 38, and Sudeikis, 36, deny the ru-

mor, telling Us, "No decisions are made until the season is over." But another "pal" of Wiig's says the timing is right: "Kristen was talking about leaving a while ago. With her movie success, it's no surprise."

It's time, but it's too bad — they (and the occasional crazy guest host, a la **Lindsay Lohan**) made the show worth watching this season. Although now that we think about it, that's a pretty sad highlight reel.



► Wiig, Sudeikis and Samberg may no longer have "Saturday Night" plans.

Madonna back on top

She's still got it: **Madonna**'s new album, "MDNA," debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Top 200 and it also enjoyed the biggest first week sales of the year. The album moved over 359,000 copies in its first seven days, more than the debut numbers for any album in 2012, according to Nielsen/SoundScan. These stats made "MDNA" Madonna's fifth No. 1 studio CD in a row.



Madonna's still got it.

The feed ...

► Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Ricky Gervais has a bone to pick about religion, Garry Shandling is trying to keep up with trends, Craig Ferguson is sleeping funny and Seth MacFarlane is revisiting history.

@rickygervais

Saying "Atheism is a belief system," is like saying "not going skiing, is a hobby."

@GarryShandling

OK, so I misunderstood what planking was at first. Big deal.

@CraigyFerg

Ugh, I feel like Burt Reynolds - woke up covered in hair. My giant German Shepherd slept on top of my bed last night. So did my dog.

@SethMacFarlane

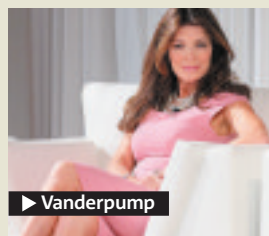
"I'M STANDING ON THE FRONT OF A BOAT!" -- Titanic (first draft)



MacFarlane

More Vanderpump!

Lisa Vanderpump is the one "Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" star who doesn't need a reality TV paycheck — yet she's the one cast member who is getting a spin-off.



► Vanderpump

"Bravo has confirmed Lisa's own show," an insider tells Life & Style. "It's going to be about her restaurant Sur Lounge and feature the staff and happenings there."

"A key character in the show is going to be **Scheana Marie**, the woman who hooked up with **John Mayer**

and **Eddie Cibrian** and works at Lisa's restaurant," a second source tells Life & Style.

Don't worry: Vanderpump will also still be a prime time player on the show that made her famous. "Yes, she's also returning for Season 3 of 'Housewives,'" the insider says. "She'll be juggling both."

Talking points

Timberlake's summer wedding?

Justin Timberlake and **Jessica Biel** are reportedly looking to tie the knot as soon as this summer, according to People magazine. "Justin and Jessica are planning a big [summer] wedding," a source says. "Jessica initially wanted a smaller, more intimate wedding, but Justin from the beginning wanted a big wedding and that's what they have decided on." He also apparently wants to be in fantastic shape for the big day: "Justin has put on a few pounds

recently after working out a lot for a movie role, but now with the summer in sight he's back in the gym and working out harder than ever," the source adds. "He's seen the effort Jessica puts [into staying] fit and looking healthy and he doesn't want to go the other way. She's inspired him to get fit again."

No royal heir on the way ... yet

Despite near-constant rumors of a baby on the way, **Prince William** and **Kate Middleton** are definitely not making any big announcements soon, a source assures Us Weekly. "Kate is not pregnant or about to make a pregnancy announcement," the

source says. There are plenty of other reasons for the royal couple to celebrate, though, as their first anniversary is coming up at the end of this month and William just completed a six-week deployment in Argentina.

Hemsworth on wedding rumors: 'I'm young!'

Liam Hemsworth must have heard the rumors about he and **Miley Cyrus** being engaged, because he's making it clear that it's far too early for anything like that. "Marriage and kids are way in the future for me," Hemsworth tells OK! Magazine. "I'm young. It's not really on my mind at the moment — marriage, kids or



► Hemsworth

anything." But he is happy to be in a serious relationship with Cyrus since it can be so hard to trust people in Hollywood: "I like to surround myself with good people and good moral values," he says. "It's hard sometimes to work out in this town what people want from you."

Mars not out of the closet

Reports of **Bruno Mars**' coming out of the closet as gay are apparently phony, his rep insists to Hollyscoop. "Someone pulled a prank and the world has run with it," the singer's rep says. "The Internet is really powerful." A viewer-submitted CNN story had reported that Mars had told a Chicago radio station that he's homosexual. "The timing is bad. I hadn't realized it was April Fools' Day, but it's been pointed out to me, and I don't want to go too public with this," Mars supposedly said. His rep insists the whole thing was "completely fabricated."

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myentertainment

10 Reasons to head to the movies this week

2 **'Titanic 3-D'** For the 100th anniversary of the Titanic — and for the sake of funding future ocean-floor explorations, maybe — James Cameron releases a 3-D adaptation of his 1997 film.

3 **'Wrath of the Titans'** Sam Worthington and Liam Neeson get all mythological on you again in this sequel to "Clash of the Titans."

4 **'Mirror Mirror'** Tarsem Singh puts his surrealistic spin on the Snow White legend.

5 **'The Hunger Games'** Potter and the sparkly vampires had their time. Now, a postapocalyptic teenage huntress takes center stage as a volunteer in her county's annual Hunger Games, in which two teens from every district must fight to the death as an act of grati-



► Stifler (Seann William Scott) and Jim (Jason Biggs) are back for a fourth helping of "Pie."

Must-see

1 **'American Reunion'** Seann William Scott, Alyson Hannigan and all those other actors who didn't have quite as much post-"Pie" success return for another installment about this group of friends who find plenty of ways to sexually humiliate each other.

tude towards the rulers of their country, Panem.

6 **'21 Jump Street'** Based on the '80s TV series, this one stars Jonah Hill and Channing Tatum as two less-than-slick police officers who go undercover in an attempt to bust a high school drug ring.

7 **'Jeff, Who Lives at Home'** By now, you'd think we'd be

sick of seeing Jason Segel play a shorts-wearing manchild who lives in his mom's basement. And yet, we're not at all.

8 **'John Carter'** Taylor Kitsch plays a Civil War vet who can't catch a break: He ends up on Mars, gets taken prisoner by giants and then should probably go back and save the princess after he finally escapes.

9 **'A Thousand Words'** Eddie Murphy angers a spiritual guru, inciting a curse that gives him only 1,000 words to speak before he dies.

10 **'Silent House'** This haunted house horror flick tells the story of a father and daughter renovating an old cottage — until the weird noise coming from the top floor becomes the priority.

● HEIDI PATALANO

TV watch list



► Stephen Hawking guest stars on "Big Bang Theory."

'Grey's Anatomy'

DRAMA. A lion is on the loose in Seattle? Yawn. After that whole bomb-in-a-guy's-belly escapade a few seasons ago, an outrageous storyline is simply par for the course. **9 p.m., ABC**

'The Big Bang Theory'

COMEDY. Just one week after Leonard Nimoy guest-starred, "The Big Bang Theory" pulls another space-related coup with tonight's cameo by famed theo-

retical physicist Stephen Hawking. **8 p.m., CBS**

'God is the Bigger Elvis'

DOCUMENTARY. Elvis co-star Dolores Hart abruptly turned her back on Hollywood to become a nun in 1963. This Oscar-nominated documentary short looks at her life as the Mother Priorress of the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Conn. **8 p.m., HBO**
 ● AMBER RAY

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mystyle

Zimmermann opens first New York store

Ready for summer? Here's some motivation. Aussie label Zimmermann — the brand's feminine bathing suits are all we want to strut around the beach or pool in — has finally opened its first New York boutique. And besides lust-worthy swimwear, designer Nicky Zimmermann, along with her partner/sister Simone, will stock the boutique with their ready-to-wear collection — including lacy dresses and floral separates. We caught up with Simone to find out what to put on our summer shopping list.



▶ Zimmermann, 87 Mercer St., 212-226-6440

Poolside picks

A fashion cover-up
1. “We really like to make pieces you can wear to the beach, and then go to the cafe and then to dinner.”

Trends in swimwear:
2. The lingerie effect
“These bathing suits have mesh [detailing], bra straps and underwire.”

3. A high-fashion one-piece
“It's got the slinky fabric over the top that gives it a lush feel. And it's got the fashion element of the draping.”

1



Devoted
Lace Swing
Dress, \$420

2



Devoted Triangle
Bra Bikini, \$265

3



Charmer
Draped
One-piece, \$395

Also opening



Joe Fresh goes big

Canadian export Joe Fresh opened a 14,000-square-foot, two-story flagship on Fifth Ave. last week. Mayor Bloomberg even stopped by for the opening day celebration.

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TINA CHADHA

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Who's your sugar daddy?

Brandon Wade never had an easy time of it when it came to dating. Being smart, but socially awkward, he was given some sage wisdom during a particularly painful phase of his life.

"My mom was telling me when I was growing up, 'Study hard and when you're successful and have the resources, if you're willing to be generous, a lot of women will make themselves available to you,'" Wade says.

Thus was the inspiration for his online dating website, Seekingarrangement.com, where wealthy older men, whom Wade refers to as "sugar daddies," can find young, pretty "sugar babies."

Before you recoil in disgust, Wade wants to remind skeptics that the concept isn't as cynical or as new as it may appear.

"If you look at a lot of the Eastern cultures, specifically India and China, [there are] arranged marriages. A lot of it is about being practical in a certain sense," Wade explains. "Chemistry isn't really developed until much later, when two people have really spent a lot of time together.

Prostitute or sugar baby?

▶ "Prostitutes have to give up self-worth," Wade says. "They have to sleep around with people they don't want to sleep with in order to get what they want, which is money. A prostitute is very sleazy — whereas a sugar baby is very glamorous. When she's looking for a sugar daddy, she does not just accept any sugar daddy. They make sure that there's chemistry and that it's someone that they would actually want to be with to begin with."

Obviously, love grows from there."

Wade says that his site is catching on, with 1.2 million members and the ratio being about 10 ladies for every man. Women can join for free and men pay \$50 a month to use the site.

▶ The ultimate sugar daddy

SYLVIA ROXROY
letters@metro.us

Reader love notes

Send us your love notes

E-mail lovenotes@metro.us with your special message. Please keep it to the length of a tweet — 140 characters. We'll print it in next week's dating section for free!

▶ *Babypoo, I love you because I love myself when I'm with you. Muahhh!!!!*

▶ *To my husband Shawn! Thank you for being the best hubby and daddy ever. I love you with all my heart. From your wife, Kia*

▶ *PapaBear - You will always be my missing puzzle piece. I will wait for you always, peegee*

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Letters

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Hey Metropolitik, what about Obama?

RE: "OBAMA THE CAMPAIGNER": Metropolitik just devoted an entire column to criticizing the budget proposed by the Republicans. Fair enough. But Metropolitik is strangely silent on Obama's 2012 budget, which the House voted to reject last week by a vote of 414-0. Yes, that's right: 414-0. In a rare display of bipartisanship with the Republicans, not a single Democrat voted for Obama's budget! Perhaps Metropolitik should devote some ink to explaining the deficiencies in Obama's budget.

RON SHELTON, MANHATTAN

Brayden Simms now accuses readers who criticize his political stance as being confused. I didn't know that calling him an "Obama shill" was an in-

sult to him since he has only good things to say about Obama! Nothing that Obama does is wrong in his columns. On the other hand, anything that the Republicans do is wrong and bad. What would you call that? Also, anyone who disagrees with him is a right-wing extremist. He doesn't mention anything that Obama does bad; I guess threatening the Supreme Court is fine. So definitely I say his writing is one-sided and he is a shill for Obama.

IGOR MANNIKUS, NEW JERSEY

"The ... healing benefits of prayers said in faith can't be disputed."

RE: "ON A WISH AND A PRAYER: UNHEALTHY": So when this guy

gets the news that he's ill and may die, I guess he'll just shrug his shoulders and die. Me? I'm gonna pray. The mind is unique and transformative, no doubt, and wishing blessings and good to oneself and others does indeed have a positive effect. And I do take full, unabashed ownership of this fact. The psychological and physiological healing benefits of prayers said in faith can't be disputed. There are thousands of years of proof that it works. Maybe you oughta research the facts. You could pray about it.

RICHARD ROACH, VIA E-MAIL

I have bad news for Steve Ahern: There is no valid study indicating that prayer has no value in helping those who are ill with many different medical and psychological problems. What studies

have said is sometimes it appears to be useful and sometimes it appears not to be useful. A lot depends on which study you read. No scientific research has arrived at a definitive view, which is understandable since prayer is not really a legitimate area of study for scientists.

ADELAIDE VERPONI, BROOKLYN

On Passover eve: Let those people go

Israel needs to let the Palestinians go. Passover and Easter are a perfect time to make good decisions to bring world peace while we bask in relative comfort in the West. Yes, let us settle the Holy Land issue. Then rich American Jews will stop throwing money at politicians in the USA. We will have a different kind of democracy in the USA where politicians don't need to be multimillionaires to represent us. If our money that divides and rules is stopped, I bet Middle East oil money will stop feeding their side, too.

SHIRLEY KOSHI, UPPER EAST SIDE

Horoscope

♈ **Aries March 21-April 19.** It behooves you to subdue your assertiveness when it comes to a partnership arrangement. There are certain things that your counterpart will be better at doing, and you need to accept that.

♉ **Taurus April 20-May 20.** As long as you stick to working with tested methods and procedures, this can be a productive day for you. Experimenting with the unknown could set your entire operation back.

♊ **Gemini May 21-June 20.** Lady Luck is only likely to help you when you stay on familiar turf. It behooves you to forego inclinations to gamble on persons or things about which you know little.

♋ **Cancer June 21-July 22.** Only after you have successfully dealt with family matters should you switch your focus to some of your other interests. Concerns of the home should be given top priority.

♌ **Leo July 23-Aug. 22.** You might have to make a choice regarding numerous circumstances that need attending. Some are positive, some could be counterproductive, but all are intermingled.

♍ **Virgo Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Before taking on anything new, you need to clean up any old, neglected jobs that you've left unattended. Only then

will you be free to give all your attention to a new project.

♎ **Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** If your mate has to make a choice in an area where he or she used poor judgment in the past, don't let history repeat itself. Step in and offer some suggestions if you can.

♏ **Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Before taking on any new duties, finish what you have already started. If you attempt to do everything all at once, it will merely lead to lots of frustration and little productivity.

♐ **Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** It is extremely important to treat all of your friends with equal courtesy and respect. If you play favorites or show partiality, you are likely to lose out.

♑ **Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** Ambitions having to do with material gains have good chances of being fulfilled. However, you might not score equally well on your social interests.

♒ **Aquarius Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** It behooves you to be a better listener than a talker. While you're telling others what you know, someone might be trying to tell you something you don't know.

♓ **Pisces Feb. 20-March 20.** Getting involved in a joint endeavor could be quite iffy, especially if you are once again teaming up with someone who was part of a failed deal in the past. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

Across

- 1 Foot warmer
- 5 Box-office hit, slangily
- 9 Geisha's zither
- 13 Crowd in
- 15 Sewing kit
- 16 Garment for a sheik
- 17 Condor nest
- 18 Fellini-inspired musical
- 19 Early movie dog
- 20 Strut along
- 21 Fixes the fight
- 23 Quite possible
- 25 Verdi heroine
- 26 Recommend
- 27 Uproar
- 30 Vitamin monitor
- 31 In front
- 32 Magnificence
- 37 Layer of paint
- 38 "Crazylegs" Hirsch
- 40 Ploy
- 41 Action flick
- 43 Put on the late show
- 44 Stadium cheer
- 45 Rich
- 47 Burn slightly
- 50 D.A. backup
- 51 Soft fabric
- 52 Escape hatch
- 53 San Francisco hill
- 56 ___ fixer
- 57 Canning tomato
- 59 Powerful adhesive
- 61 Culture dish goo
- 62 Leatherneck org.
- 63 English Channel port
- 64 Mardi Gras follower
- 65 Pyramid builder
- 66 Vacuum attachment

Down

- 1 Wild guess
- 2 Nabisco cookie
- 3 Firm, for short
- 4 Pond carp
- 5 ___ tiger
- 6 Elevator name
- 7 Lots of laughs
- 8 Enjoyable time (2 wds.)
- 9 Drab color
- 10 Camel stops
- 11 Deed
- 12 Thumbs-up
- 14 Era
- 22 Deposed Amin
- 24 "Terrible" tsar
- 25 Fine violin

- 26 Big hairdo
- 27 Ambassador's forte
- 28 Oops! (hyph.)
- 29 Raise, as kids
- 32 Menacing sound
- 33 Lived
- 34 Blarney Stone site
- 35 ___ Bator
- 36 Monthly expense
- 38 Silver-gold alloy
- 39 Rachel's sister
- 42 Ancient harp
- 43 Oxidized
- 45 City near Monte Alban
- 46 Frat letter
- 47 Swamp grass
- 48 Just washed
- 49 Plain to see
- 51 Perfume bottle
- 52 Tube trophy
- 53 Exploding star
- 54 Draft animals
- 55 Polar explorer
- 58 Mama bear, in Madrid
- 60 Captured soldier

1						7	6	
	4				6		9	3
	2				7			
			7	1	5	9		
4	7			8			2	5
		9	4	3	2			
			3				1	
9	6		2				3	
	1	5						7

SUDOKU LEVEL: EASY

Solution to yesterday's crossword

P	L	A	N	E	A	R	C	H	E	N	A
S	A	M	O	A	N	E	R	O	R	E	S
A	S	O	L	S	L	O	P	A	R	E	A
T	H	I	N	K	I	N	K	I	N	K	I
S	E	M	I	N	A	R	C	H	E	N	A
A	M	A	S	S	K	I	L	O	T	R	A
H	A	R	T	M	A	I	D	S	W	O	O
I	L	L	I	D	I	N	T	C	O	N	D
B	L	A	T	A	N	T	L	O	O	K	S
O	B	I	P	E	L	E					
P	A	S	S	B	E	A	V	E	R	O	A
E	L	I	S	I	D	L	E	C	O	T	T
C	A	G	E	K	E	E	L	E	V	E	N
S	E	N	D	E	N	D	S	E	N	S	E

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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► This weekend, the Dekalb Market is opening its doors to a season of free music, art, food and film ► Highlights of its new beer garden ► Other outdoor markets to hit



ORE DESIGN + TECHNOLOGY

Dekalb Market is your playground

Buy your veggies

The Dekalb Market will feature a weekly produce pick-up organized by Plovgh. There will be a weekly theme correlating with the crops available that week as well as monthly programming centered around farming.

Spring has arrived, so you know what that means: It's time to take advantage of New York's famous open-air markets.

One of the best to experience? Dekalb Market's repurposed shipping containers, which will showcase an array of new treats — from a new beer and wine garden featuring local craft beer, wine and sangria to curated programming that organizers hope will make it a one-stop shop for all New Yorkers.

"It's a Saturday afternoon and you don't know where to go — you know you can head to the Dekalb Market for live music and a beer," says Joann Kim-Nunez, a producer of the market, which opens this Saturday. "We want this to be on people's agendas."

On any given day (the Dekalb Market will be open seven days a week) guests will find all forms of entertainment, such as music, art, movies and shopping.

"It's really not just a market," Kim-Nunez says. "It's a multi-experience venue."

Dekalb Market
Opening Saturday
138 Willoughby St., Brooklyn
www.dekalbmarket.com

Other outside markets opening

► **Brooklyn Flea, April 7**
176 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn
Not just food (though sporting several yummy additions this year), Brooklyn Flea is a real-life Etsy featuring local and regional vendors of antiques, vintage clothes, handmade items, jewelry and more.

► **Smorgasburg, April 7**
East River at N. Sixth St., Brooklyn

This foodie carnival features packaged and prepared foods created by vendors in the city and across the region. Shops with housewares and kitchen goodies are also on hand.

► **Red Hook Ballfields, April 14 or 21 (tentative)**
Bay St. nr. Clinton St., Brooklyn
Forget IKEA: Head down to Red Hook to sample famed Vendy Cup award winners Solber Pupusas' Salvadoran specialty of handmade corn masa patties filled with various meats,

cheeses and veggies.

► **Hester Street Fair, April 28**
Essex St. at Hester St.
The Hester Street Fair is home to a weekly rotation of 60 unique vendors with an emphasis on local, handmade or collected wares.

► **New Amsterdam Market, April 29**

South St. near Peck Slip
Head down to the Financial District on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for this burgeoning market, held at the old Fulton Fish

Market, to find butchers, grocers, mongers and other local-minded vendors.

► **Brooklyn Bridge Park, open now**
Pier 6, Furman St. at Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn
This extremely popular open-air market features vendors like Blue Marble Ice Cream, Brooklyn Bridge Wine Bar and Bark Hot Dogs.

 **MARY ANN GEORGANTOPOULOS**

Dining out

James Beard House dinner

The James Beard House is doing something radical tonight: For the first time ever, the esteemed organization will feature a cruise line chef. The director of culinary operations of Celebrity Cruises, John Suley, will be on hand to show what's cooking on the ships. "We want to showcase the food we're creating on the ship — cooking that can be rivaled with any great restaurant in the U.S." On the menu for tonight? Suley tells us it'll be a lot of lamb, from raviolis to shanks. For more info about tonight's dinner, go to www.jamesbeard.org.





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MEET THE MESS

► Mets face many questions, few answers as season kicks off ► Santana returns to mound, Davis to lineup

The long march to respectability begins in Queens today. It may take a little longer than the 162 games this season to come to fruition though.

For the fifth straight season the Mets missed the playoffs last year. And three times in a row now they have finished under .500. But the cloud of the Bernie Madoff case lifted this spring and while the team cut payroll, they do now have financial solvency.

Maybe more importantly, general manager Sandy Alderson appears to have a plan for the future, even if it may take awhile. The trade of Carlos Beltran last July netted top pitching prospect Zach Wheeler and first-round pick Matt Harvey could be in the major league rotation in the latter half of 2012.

For now, the Mets are counting on the rebirth of a list of players to get them through. Johan Santana will start today and the Mets hope he can give them 150 innings. Ike Davis is also returning from a freak foot injury that kept him out the last four months of the season.

And then of course there is



SARAH GLENN/GETTY IMAGES

► Santana will make his first start since Sept. 2, 2010.

ON TV TODAY

Mets vs. Braves
1:10 p.m., SNY

the duo of Jason Bay and David Wright, who both played more than 100 games in 2011

and failed to live up to expectations. The Mets hope their long march back to elite-level players starts with shorter walls in the outfield.



MARK OSBORNE
mark.osborne@metro.us



Closing time?

There are few areas of the Mets more convoluted than their closer situation. They overhauled the whole pen in the offseason, so Metro takes a look at some of the new crew and an old favorite that could close:

► RHP Frank Francisco (2011: 17 saves, 3.55 ERA) Francisco is the presumed closer for the Mets, though he is battling a knee injury.

► RHP Jon Rauch (2011: 11 saves, 4.85 ERA) Rauch shared closers duty in Toronto with Francisco last year and may do it again in New York. He's big (6-foot-11), but doesn't throw hard.

► RHP Ramon Ramirez (2011: 2.62 ERA, 1.17 WHIP) The last of the three additions to the bullpen. Ramirez has a track record of excellent seasons in the set-up role, including for the Giants last year.

► RHP Bobby Parnell (2011: 3.64 ERA, 1.47 WHIP) Parnell has been a sore subject for Mets fans. He has tremendous ability, but he's been inconsistent. He had 27 walks in 59 1/3 IP last year. He could be a closer candidate though.



Ramon Ramirez
and his game face

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